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Dated: February 27, 2006 Signature:

ilan H. a lew

Docket No.: 28570/10289

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Jerald W. Darlington, Jr. et al.

Application No.: 10/666,315

Filed: September 18, 2003

For: MOISTURE-IMPERVIOUS WATER-SWELLABLE CLAY-CONTAINING

"WATER-STOP" COMPOSITION

Confirmation No.: 7910

Art Unit: 1714

Examiner: K. A. Sanders

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.